"ADORATION"

517

Marinette et Zoé ont été choisies pour organiser la fête de fin d'année du collège. A cette occasion, Marinette découvre que Zoé est amoureuse en secret d'une personne qui est en troisième, au collège. Mais Zoé dit ne pas pouvoir lui en parler. Pour Marinette, une seule raison possible : Zoé est amoureuse Adrien !
Mais avant de savoir si elle a raison, une ennemie commune aux deux filles va essayer de détruire leur belle amitié.

When Marinette and Zoe are chosen to organize the end-of-school-year party, Marinette learns that Zoe is secretly in love with someone in ninth grade at school. Zoe says that she cannot talk about it. To Marinette, this can only mean one thing: Zoe is in love with Adrien! But before she finds out whether she is right or not, a common enemy of the girls will try to ruin their beautiful friendship…

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1 **EXT. PALACE ROOF - NIGHT**

It's night time. Andre Bourgeois and Zoe are on the roof of Palace, hiding behind a bush. Andre's dream cellar is open. Zoe is about to put a framed picture in it. But Andre waves to her to wait. He takes a script out of his cellar:

1 ANDRE BOURGEOIS
Look: back then, *I* wrote an entire movie to declare my love to her. Admittedly, the script was a bit long, but... that was only because I had so much love for my sweet Audrey!

Zoe is surprised by the name on the cover:

2 ZOE
Written by... Anaximandre?

3 ANDRE BOURGEOIS
Um, well... I changed my name... in the name of love! In fact, I even changed my life for love!

Just then we hear Audrey's voice:

4 AUDREY BOURGEOIS (O.S.)
Andre, Andre! Come and give me a foot massage! / Where on earth is he?

Andre puts the script back in his cellar, wrapping Zoe's hand around the photo frame she's holding (Note: we never see the photo in the frame).

5 ANDRE BOURGEOIS
Never bury your dreams, Zoe! You have two whole weeks left before the end of the school year to tell whoever it is that you're in love with, exactly how you feel.

Andre jogs off to meet...

6 ANDRE BOURGEOIS (CONT'D)
Audrey darling! Sorry to keep you waiting...I'm coming...!

Left alone, Zoe looks at the picture in the frame. All we see are her eyes, filled with love.

2 **INT. SCHOOL / LIBRARY - DAY**

The Principal is addressing a group of students gathered in the library.

7 MR. DAMOCLES
As you know, it's almost the end of the school year, which means... it's almost time for our END OF YEAR DANCE!

Mr. Damocles is really, really excited.

8 MR. DAMOCLES (CONT'D)
That's why we asked you to select the class representatives who will organize the event! Let me remind you that traditionally reps should be one 8th grade student and one 9th grade student.

9 MARC
The eight graders have elected Zoe Lee, Mr. Damocles.

Marc points to Zoe, who smiles, flattered.

10 ALYA
And Marinette Dupain-Cheng has been elected to represent the 9th graders.

Alya points at Marinette, who smiles at Zoe. Zoe blushes.

11 MR. DAMOCLES
Well, perfect then. We'll meet with you both tonight to find out what you have planned. Surprise us!

3 **INT. MARINETTE'S ROOM -DAY**

The bedroom trapdoor opens. Marinette enters first and drags Zoe in after her, holding her hand. Exhilarated, Marinette is already in party planning mode.

12 MARINETTE
We're gonna make a great team! Wait 'til you hear my ideas--

Marinette realizes that Zoe is standing motionless next to the trapdoor, seemingly intimidated.

13 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
You okay, Zoe?

14 ZOE
Your room is... beautiful!

15 MARINETTE
Oh! Silly me! You've never been here before... Let me show you around!

Marinette takes Zoe by the hand again and drags her along.

16 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
This is my chaise lounge. I made it myself from salvaged parts...
(*She sits down*)
I like to lie on it to read, or dream...

Zoe smiles to see Marinette so enthusiastic. Hop! Marinette jerks back up and drags Zoe along again.

17 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
That's my storage chest, it...

She opens it: it’s full of wrapped-up presents. Seeing the wild look on Zoe's face, Marinette closes it.

18 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
...needs some tidying up!

She drags Zoe across the room.

19 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
My dress form for working on my fashion designs... My desk, where I do my homework...

Under the mezzanine.

20 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
And now, my most important spot: my creative workshop! With my sewing machine, threads, fabrics...

Zoe sees a beautiful sketch of a ball gown.

21 ZOE
That's gorgeous.

22 MARINETTE
Hehe, thanks! It's just a sketch, of course! That's the dress I'd like to make for the dance. Well, I still have to get all the necessary pieces, but I hope I'll have time and...

While talking, she makes big, Marinette-like gestures and inadvertently triggers the mechanism of the "Adrien" drop-down board that comes down all of a sudden, almost knocking them out. Marinette pulls Zoe by the hand just barely.

On an incredulous Zoe looking at the board / planning. On Marinette looking embarrassed.

23 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
Oops, sorry! That's... dangerous... and useless anyway. I should just get rid of it already... I'm past all *those* "crazy" plans to try and talk to Adrien anyhow...

Zoe takes in the countless pictures of Adrien hanging everywhere. She gives them a pensive look. Marinette doesn't notice. She brings the picture board back up, grabs a pair of binoculars, a large sheet of paper, pencils, and invites Zoe to follow her.

24 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
C'm'on, let's head to the patio!

4 **EXT. MARINETTE'S PATIO - DAY**

From the patio, using the binoculars turns, Marinette and Zoe can see all of Paris. They're looking for the perfect location for the party.

25 MARINETTE
Outdoors at the Trocadero?

26 ZOE
Under the vault of the Grand Palais?

Marinette takes the binoculars... and sees, in her viewfinder:

27 MARINETTE
The Eiffel Tower!

Marinette is already making a sketch on her big sheet of paper to illustrate her idea, as she explains her vision to Zoe:

28 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
It's the perfect place! *That's* where we should have our first kiss, it has to be exceptional... magical, miraculous!
(*a beat. She pulls herself together as she sees Zoe's interrogating gaze*)
I know: I need to learn to say "I love you", first! ...I'm good at dreaming about it... but when it comes to actually doing something? It's almost impossible...
Although... you could help me!

29 ZOE
(*intrigued*)
Help you do what?

Marinette waves it off and starts erasing her sketch already.

30 MARINETTE
I was thinking we could ask your stepfather about using the Eiffel Tower for the dance... But maybe you don't want to bother him with that. *

31 ZOE
No, totally the opposite! Let's go talk to Anaximandre.

On Marinette looking puzzled.
Zoe smiles and corrects herself.

32 ZOE (CONT'D)
I mean, let's go talk to my stepdad, the mayor of Paris!

Marinette, holding her big sheet of paper and pencils, isn't sure yet. Zoe takes some of the supplies, and this time it's her who takes Marinette's hand and leads her away from the patio.

5 **EXT. OUTSIDE PALACE - DAY**

Marinette, her sports bag slung over her shoulder, arrives outside the Palace with Zoe. Marinette stops and pulls her hand away from Zoe's. Surprised, Zoe turns towards her, quizzical.

33 MARINETTE
I just realized that if your "lovely" "half-sister" sees us together... she'll make your life a living nightmare! *

Zoe smiles confidently:

34 ZOE
Chloe doesn't have that power anymore!

6 **INT. PALACE - DAY**

When Zoe enters the Palace, she greets everyone by their first name. First, the butler:

35 ZOE
Hello Armand! So, did Justine like the movie yesterday?

36 ARMAND
Hello Zoe! Justine loved it so much that it's all she talks about, now!

37 ZOE
Awesome! (*To a maid*) Hello, Sophie!

38 SOPHIE
Hello Zoe, how are you doing?

Zoe signals that all is well... when:

39 CHLOE (OFF / IN)
What gives you the right to bring the *baker girl* into MY house?

Chloe is standing proudly at the top of the central staircase in the hall, accompanied by her faithful underling, Sabrina.

Zoe instantly responds, without blinking:

40 ZOE
This isn't YOUR house, Chloe, it's... OURS!

Chloe takes the hit, offended. Marinette looks at Zoe, impressed, while Chloe rants:

41 CHLOE
I only tolerate your presence as long as you stick to MY rules. And right now, Dupain-Cheng has set foot on the first step of MY stairs.

Indeed, Marinette has one foot on the first step! Armand the butler instantly appears next to Chloe, holding out Mr. Cuddly to console her.

42 ARMAND
Your Mr. Cuddly, mademoiselle. I washed him with a new fabric softener...lavender scented! I hope you like it!

43 CHLOE
I don't care about your lavender, Jean-Benoît!

Chloe throws Mr. Cuddly at his feet, but the diversion's worked: on a signal from Zoe, Marinette has used it to go down a step and so, technically, she's no longer on the stairs.

44 ZOE
The butler's name is Armand, not Jean-Benoît. As for Marinette, she hasn't stepped foot on "your" stairs.

Chloe sees that Marinette's foot is no longer on the step. She frowns, not fooled.

45 CHLOE
I saw it, I know I did... we'll check the hotel security cameras! Daddyyyy!

Mr. Bourgeois appears from behind the counter:

46 M. BOURGEOIS
Oh, I'm sorry sweetie but we're in the middle of a computer update, and the last five minutes weren't recorded because the cameras were off!

Chloe is furious. Marinette notices Zoe exchanging a discreet wink of complicity with Armand, then Andre. She realizes that everyone is helping Zoe.

Audrey appears in turn, coming down the stairs majestically.

47 CHLOE
Moooooom! My half-of-a-sister has allowed the baker girl to walk up MY stairs!

Without stopping, Audrey answers Chloe:

48 AUDREY BOURGEOIS
Since when do you need me to torment your sister, Zoe?

49 CHLOE
(*in shock*)
But... I'm not Zoe, it's me, Chloe!

50 AUDREY BOURGEOIS
Yes, well, Chloe, Zoe, who cares? Stop confusing me or I'll send you both back to New York! As for the stairs, they're MINE, so shoo, both of you!

When she gets to the bottom of the stairs, she holds out a hand towards Andre:

51 AUDREY BOURGEOIS (CONT'D)
Andre! Gold, diamond, platinum!

Andre rushes to her.

52 ANDRE BOURGEOIS
There, my darling Audrey!

He gives her a bunch of shiny credit cards. Then Audrey struts down the hall to the exit like a 1950s movie star.

53 ZOE
(*to Chloe*)
Chloe, I believe you're still on the stairs... and if you've been listening to OUR mother... that's no longer allowed. Unless you want to go back to New York with me?

54 CHLOE
I'll make you pay for every one of these steps!

55 ZOE
Sure, Chloe, of course you will! In the meantime, have a nice day!

Before retreating with her head high, Chloe adds, threatening (so as not to lose face completely):

56 CHLOE
Don't you dare go anywhere near my room!

Like her mother, Chloe leaves like a queen. Sabrina picks up Mr. Cuddly and trots away after her.

Marinette is stunned.

57 MARINETTE
What happened to the scared Zoe who moved here from New York a few months ago?

58 ZOE
It's all thanks to you, Marinette. You're the one who helped me change!

INSERT - Chloe’s gone to hide with Sabrina behind one of the columns at the top of the stairs. They're watching and hearing everything. - END INSERT

Zoe leads Marinette to Andre.

59 ZOE (CONT'D)
Andre, I have a question for you... or rather for the Mayor of Paris!

In a flash, cartoon-style, Andre takes out his mayor's scarf and pulls out a large portrait of him as the mayor of Paris from behind the counter (a replica of the one in his office at City Hall).

60 ANDRE BOURGEOIS
The mayor of Paris is listening to you, my dear Zoe!

61 ZOE
Marinette and I have been selected to plan the end-of-year dance at school...

INSERT ON Chloe and Sabrina listening.

62 ZOE (CONT'D)
And we were wondering if it there was any way we could have it on the Eiffel Tower!

Zoe turns to Marinette and waves to her. Out of her sports bag, Marinette takes the large sheet of paper on which she drew a sketch of their plan.

63 MARINETTE
There would be a concert, then a DJ set, a buffet and, for those who don't like to dance, a trampoline stretched between the four pillars of the Tower!

A beat. Andre looks at the illustration carefully.

64 ANDRE BOURGEOIS
Um... interesting!
(*getting slowly carried away*)
We could also film the evening, and the images would be projected in real time on a giant screen. A film within the film about the film of the party, because cinema is life and life is cinema... and (*sharing a friendly look with Zoe*) if someone needed to proclaim their love for somebody else, this would be the perfect place and time for it...

Suddenly, he stops, seeing Zoe and Marinette’s amused faces. He returns to his serious attitude as mayor.

65 ANDRE BOURGEOIS (CONT'D)
Yes, um... uh... well, er, by the powers vested in me, the City of Paris authorizes you to hold this party on the Eiffel Tower. And, of course, it would probably be best if I were there in person.
(suddenly excited again) That way, if anyone decides to get married, I can officiate!

66 MARINETTE
Uh... Mr. Mayor, I think we're too young to get married, but it's nice of you to offer!

67 ANDRE BOURGEOIS
Uh-huh... Of course! Of course!
(*to Zoe*)
And by the way, if Chloe comes asking questions, we never had this conversation!

68 ZOE
(*with a knowing smile*)
Got it, Anax!

They don't know that Chloe, hiding, is watching the whole thing.

7 **INT. AGRESTE MANSION - KITCHEN - DAY**

OPEN on Nathalie looking surprised.

69 NATHALIE
Raclette?

Nathalie, Gabriel, Adrien... and the Bodyguard are seated around... a tabletop Raclette grill!
Gabriel puts potatoes on the griddle.

70 GABRIEL
Yes, Nathalie. Adrien told me that he would enjoy this! And I've decided to make all my son's dreams come true.

71 ADRIEN
Thanks, dad!

On Nathalie looking dubious. Gabriel, unctuous:

72 GABRIEL
Would you like some salami, Natalie?

Adrien is happy about this lunch.

73 ADRIEN
Dad... could I go to the school dance with Marinette?

Gabriel almost chokes on his cheese. But he takes it upon himself to try and remain jovial.

74 GABRIEL
Adrien, you're an Agreste, too exceptional for--

To Gabriel's surprise, Adrien doesn't let him finish.

75 ADRIEN
Marinette is exceptional, too!

Gabriel starts letting his anger show.

76 GABRIEL
No. Adrien, I'm your father, and I order you to give up on this idea.

Impressed by his father, Adrien is about to give in, but Nathalie steps in.

77 NATHALIE
Didn't you want to make all your son's dreams come true?

Gabriel surrenders in the face of the retort that brooks no argument.

78 ADRIEN
Thank you, Dad.

8 **INT. BATHROOM - DAY**

Lila is admiring her reflection in a bathroom mirror. OFF, we hear Gabriel's voice.

79 GABRIEL (VIA ALLIANCE)
You're supposed to be protecting my son. And yet, Marinette Dupain-Cheng is still being a very bad influence on him...

Lila is talking with Gabriel via her Alliance, above which the stylist's hologram is glowing.

80 LILA
Don't worry, Mr. Agreste. A plan is already in motion that should resolve this problem quickly, once and for all.

Once the conversation is over, Lila hangs up and walks out of the room...

9 **INT. CHLOE'S ROOM - DAY**

...and we discover that Lila was in Chloe's bathroom. The latter, still furious at Zoe, is venting her anger with Sabrina, who's trying to cheer her up by doing her nails.

81 CHLOE
Punching bags are supposed to be punched!! They're not supposed to punch back!

82 LILA ROSSI
The problem isn't Zoe, it's Marinette. She's the one setting a bad example for your half-of-a-sister.

83 CHLOE
Grrrrr... I need to be done with this... anti-bullying party pooper!!!

Lila suddenly looks evil.

84 LILA
I have the perfect plan to get rid of her for good. But I'm going to need...
(*She points to Chloe and Sabrina*)
You two!

10 **INT. ZOE'S ROOM - DAY**

Zoe walks into her room, followed by Marinette, still in awe, lost in her plan:

85 MARINETTE
Wow, we're actually getting the Eiffel Tower!

She doesn't see Zoe quickly hiding the frame on her bedside table... (the same as in the first scene. We still don't see the picture).

86 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
Well, we should probably plan this afternoon.... Go see the Kitty Section and Nino for the music, my parents for the buffet, oh, and we need a florist for the decor. This is going to be the best party ever!

She finally looks up at Zoe, who hurriedly closes the drawer in which she's just put her picture frame. Zoe smiles and nods, a little tense.

11 **INT. CHLOE'S ROOM - DAY**

We find Lila, Chloe and... a horrified-looking Sabrina:

87 SABRINA
But... I can't do something like that! Chloe, I'd do anything to help you, but this goes against everything I stand for... You *know* my dad is a police officer. I just can't... steal!

88 CHLOE
It’s precisely because your father’s a policeman that no one will suspect you. And if you get caught, he'll clear your name!

89 SABRINA
You mean he’ll be furious with me!

90 CHLOE
(*Threatening*)
Do you want to be demoted from underling to punching bag? You wanna join the baker girl and the half-of-a-sister?

91 SABRINA
(*Terrified*)
No, I'm your friend...

92 CHLOE
My underling. You are my underling.

Sabrina is close to tears.

93 CHLOE (CONT'D)
If you're not willing to do anything for me... then get lost!

Sabrina heads for the door, hanging her head. But Chloe calls out to her.

94 CHLOE (CONT'D)
Wait!

Sabrina stops. Chloe opens a drawer and pulls out a whistle.

95 CHLOE (CONT'D)
Remember this?

Sabrina, with her eyes wide open:

96 SABRINA
Oh yes, my tut-tut whistle!

Chloe throws it at her feet. Sabrina picks it up and puts it around her neck.

97 CHLOE
Try whistling into it to see if you can ever find another friend who's half as good as me!

Sabrina walks out crying. Chloe slams the door behind her and turns to Lila.

98 CHLOE (CONT'D)
Your plan was lame and ridiculous. What are we going to do now?

Lila's confident, calm.

99 LILA
We're just going to wait...

12 **INT. MONARCH'S LAIR**

In his lair, Monarch can sense Sabrina's negative emotions.

100 MONARCH
Lila Rossi isn't lying when she promises something. I sense an emotion with rare power...

He shapes a Megakuma and heads for Kaalki's cage, placing a ring against it.

101 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Kaalki! Your power is now mine!

The essence of the kwami is loaded into the ring, which displays the logo of the power.

102 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Voyage, my Megakuma !

He opens a portal through which the Megakuma flies out.

13 **CROSS CUT WITH: INT. PALACE - CORRIDOR - DAY**

The Megakuma comes out and lodges itself in Sabrina's whistle — she's crying in the corridor.

103 MONARCH
Vanisher, I am Monarch. Do you want to keep your best friend? Well, to that end, I am giving you back your power of Invisibility.

In the lair, he places his ring against Barkk's cage.

104 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Barkk, your power is now mine.

As the ring charges, Monarch addresses Sabrina again.

105 MONARCH (CONT'D)
And to increase your chances of success, I'm transferring the essence of the Miraculous of Adoration to you, which will give you the power to recall any object you'll have previously touched.

MONARCH presses the seal of the dog on the ring.

106 MONARCH (CONT'D)
Transfer!

ZOOM IN on Sabrina's Alliance ring. We go inside the jewel, where an electronic component lights up in the color of the Miraculous of the Dog (brown).

107 MONARCH (CONT'D)
From now on, you'll be able to steal undetected, risk-free! All you have to do is whistle!

108 SABRINA
(*Sniffles*)... thank you Monarch!

Sabrina transforms into Vanisher.

14 **INT. CHLOE'S ROOM - DAY**

Chloe's in the middle of her room, staring in amazement at Lila counting down.

109 LILA
3... 2... 1...

As if by magic, the door opens. We can't see anyone. Chloe's a little worried.

110 CHLOE
Are you a... witch?

But then Vanisher reveals herself as Sabrina becomes visible again.

111 VANISHER
I'm willing to help you, Chloe, if you're willing to keep me as a friend!

Lila smiles evilly at Chloe.

112 LILA
See, now there's a good underling!

Vanisher touches Chloe's gold phone. Chloe is about to forbid it, but Lila waves at her to stay put. A magic light (VFX) goes through the phone. The object doesn't move. Vanisher takes a step back, and WHISTLES. The phone instantly disappears from the table where it was and appears in the supervillain's invisible hands. It looks like the phone is magically suspended in the air. Chloe and Lila look at each other, satisfied. They can go ahead with the plan.

15 **INT. ZOE'S ROOM - DAY**

Vanisher enters Zoe's room, without Zoe or Marinette noticing. The villain steps behind them, carefully observing the sketch of the dress that Marinette is redesigning...

113 MARINETTE
And *voilà*! This version is simpler, less... princess-y, don't you think?

Zoe nods, fascinated.

114 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
And with less items to gather and put together, I *might* actually finish this dress on time!
(*sighs*)
If only it was that simple with Adrien!
(*a beat*)
I'm trying not to come up with any more complicated plans... but it's still hard to tell him how I feel.

Zoe totally sympathizes with Marinette.

115 ZOE
I get it. Telling someone how you feel is not easy... it's the most difficult thing in the world, actually. I also can't tell the person I love my true feelings.

This comes as a revelation for Marinette.

116 MARINETTE
Whoa, you're in love?! That's so awesome!! Who is it!? Ooh! Is it someone I know? From our school?!? I'm so happy for you!!

117 ZOE
It's... complicated.

118 MARINETTE
If it's complicated, you can tell me: I'm an expert in complicated situations!

Zoe gives a hint of a half amused, half sad smile.

119 ZOE
Anyway, there's no point in thinking about it because in two weeks' time we won't see each other anymore.

120 MARINETTE
A ninth-grader then?

Zoe looks embarrassed. Marinette backtracks.

121 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
Oh, sorry, I'm totally butting into your business. But one thing I know for sure, is that this person must be wonderful, if someone as awesome as you loves'em.

122 ZOE
Yes. Wonderful. Loved by everyone.

123 MARINETTE
Ahahah! Kinda like Adrien, then! I know how hard this is! But, love conquers all! When you love someone, nothing’s impossible, nothing’s forbidden! Love has no limits, no boundaries! It’s a rebellious bird that can never be tamed!

126 ZOE
Except... this person's in love with someone else.

127 MARINETTE
Oh? Right. Ok. It does sound like it could be an obstacle. But who knows?! Maybe he's not really in love the person you think he's in love with. And even if he were, why couldn’t he be in love with another person, or two people, or even no one at all?

128 ZOE
It's true: you are an expert at complicated situations, Marinette!

The two friends laugh together.

129 MARINETTE
Anyway, if you won’t be seeing each other anymore in two weeks, there will never be a better time than the party to say how you feel.

Just then, Vanisher seems to have found what she was looking for. She looks at Marinette's sketch again: it shows a bracelet like the one on Zoe's dressing table. With her whistle, Vanisher touches it. A discreet magic VFX goes through the object. But it doesn't move. Not yet!

16 **INT. PALACE LOBBY - DAY**

Zoe and Marinette are about to leave the Palace, but Zoe stops.

130 ZOE
I have to call my drama teacher and tell him I can't make it this afternoon!

131 MARINETTE
Okay, I'll wait for you outside!

17 **EXT. OUTSIDE PALACE - DAY**

Marinette walks to her scooter parked in front of the Palace, while 'facetiming' Alya.

132 ALYA
Wow! The Eiffel Tower! You girls nailed it!

133 MARINETTE
It was all thanks to Zoe; she's the real hero! You should have seen her stand up to Chloe... she's not getting walked all over anymore!

Marinette looks around. Zoe's not back yet.

134 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
Hey, did you know she has a secret crush on a ninth grader?

135 ALYA
No. Who is he?

136 MARINETTE
I wish I knew. I would have helped her, otherwise!

137 ALYA
Hahah! You? The Great Expert of Love Declarations?

138 MARINETTE
Come on, this is serious, Zoe's in eighth grade, which means her True Love won't be at the same school anymore next year...

139 ALYA
It's hard to help her when we don't even know who he is!

140 MARINETTE
True...

Marinette watches Zoe walking by addressing Adrien's hologram on her Alliance ring. And then, boom, a revelation! Marinette has a flash.

141 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
What if Zoe's in love with Adrien?

142 ALYA
Huh?!

143 MARINETTE
Everyone loves Adrien! That would explain why she didn't want to tell me...

A beat. Marinette sees Zoe turn off her Alliance, wave at her and cross the hall towards the exit.

144 ALYA
What are you gonna say to her if *Adrien* is the love of her life?

Zoe steps out of the Palace.

145 MARINETTE
I don't know. I'll keep you posted. Love you, bye.

Marinette hangs up.

146 ZOE
If we don't hurry, we're gonna miss him!

147 MARINETTE
Huh? Miss who? Adrien?

148 ZOE
No, the florist. The shop closes soon... You think about Adrien a lot, don't you?

Marinette hands her a helmet for the scooter.

149 MARINETTE
Oh no... no, I don't think about him that much... you know, he doesn't belong to me... well, I mean, he kinda does a little, but none of this matters, because no one really belongs to anyone... what matters us (*on Zoe looking surprised*), what brings us together and what you and I are supposed to do!

Zoe looks at Marinette, a little taken aback.

150 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
You know? Organize the school dance?!

As the girls get on the scooter, behind them, **Vanisher is still following them...**

18 **EXT. FLORIST - DAY**

Starting here, a clipped sequence with no dialogues.

Zoe and Marinette talk to the florist who shows them how he can glue rose petals onto a table with spray adhesive.

While he explains, Marinette adjusts her sketch... and Vanisher touches large paper roses with her whistle... and the spray adhesive when the florist puts it down. Each time she does, a discreet VFX passes over the objects that remain in their place -- for the time being...

19 **INT. DUPAIN-CHENG BAKERY - DAY**

Zoe and Marinette are now talking with Tom and Sabine. Marinette adds the cake designs to her giant sketch.

Vanisher's hand touches the lace doilies (embroidered with the bakery's logo) beneath the cakes . She also touches the baker's peel, a coat rack... No one sees the villain.

20 **EXT. HOUSEBOAT - DAY**

Zoe and Marinette talk with Anarka, Nino, Alya, Adrien and the Kitty Section.

Vanisher's hand touches Anarka's pirate flag, as well as a guitar, the drumsticks...

21 **EXT. EIFFEL TOWER / FIRST LEVEL - EVENING**

It's the end of the day. Zoe and Marinette are explaining how their project will unfold to all the "protagonists" of the upcoming end-of-year party – they're all here on the first level of the Eiffel Tower. Principal Damocles, Marinette's parents, Anarka, the Kitty Section, Nino and Adrien, the florist, and of course Mayor Bourgeois - they're all here!

151 MARINETTE
Once all the students are here...

152 ZOE
The Kitty Section will open the evening with a concert...

Marinette has pulled her giant sheet of paper from her gym bag and left the bag in a corner. She and Zoe explain, with the help of the colorful illustrations:

153 MARINETTE
Anyone who doesn't feel like dancing...

154 ZOE
And who isn't afraid of heights!

155 MARINETTE
... can have fun on a huge trampoline set up between the feet of the Eiffel Tower...

Chloe and Vanisher are here too, hidden from view. Chloe waves at the villain. It's time! Vanisher blows into the whistle.

INSERTS - everywhere Marinette and Zoe have been, all the objects Vanisher touched disappear (FX).

BACK - on Vanisher, in whose hands all the (still invisible) objects reappear. She puts them in Marinette's bag, left aside.

Next, Vanisher whistles again and the objects become visible inside the bag...

... right in front of Tikki, who was hiding inside the bag.

Just then Chloe comes out of her hiding place, interrupting Marinette and Zoe's presentation.

156 CHLOE
DUPAING CHENG! You thief!! Give me my phone back!

157 MARINETTE
Chloe?

Of course, Marinette is surprised and doesn't understand what's going on.

Zoe gets suspicious. Mr. Bourgeois tries to calm the situation down.

158 MR. BOURGEOIS
My darling Chloe... do you want me to buy you another phone?

But Chloe pushes him aside and rages on:

159 CHLOE
No! I want MY phone! The one that's in the baker girl's gym bag!

Tom stands in front of his daughter:

160 TOM
Don't you dare accuse my daughter!

Chloe wants to grab the bag, but Marinette protects it, hiding it behind her back, knowing that Tikki is inside.

161 MARINETTE
It's private!!!

Marinette thus allows Tikki to fly through the bag and hide behind a pillar, without anyone seeing the kwami.

Chloe, who hasn't seen Tikki, takes people as witnesses:

162 CHLOE
She wouldn't stop me from looking if she had nothing to hide... super suspicious!!!

Adrien frowns.

163 ADRIEN
What are doing, Chloe? Quit it!

But Chloe sneaks between Tom's legs and rips the bag out of Marinette's hand:

164 CHLOE
There will be no obstruction to MY justice!

Chloe pours out the contents of the bag herself. Marinette and all the guests are in shock.

All the objects touched by Vanisher earlier are scattered on the floor. How is that possible?

165 ZOE
Chloe's planned all this!

Adrien agrees. He's watching the scene carefully.

166 CHLOE
Oh, yeah? Oh really? And how did I do it? Am I a magician, maybe?

167 MARINETTE
Of course... magic! An akumatized villain could have made things appear in my bag!

168 CHLOE
An akumatized villain? Hahaha! And where is this invisible akumatized thief? Besides, why would this hypothetical villain use YOUR bag to stash things that, wouldn’t you know, look conveniently just like the elements you need for... (*dramatic pause*) YOUR "dress"?
(MORE)

CHLOE (CONT'D)
Which looks utterly ridiculous, by the way!

Chloe points to the sketch of the ball gown on the sheet that Marinette is holding. Indeed, each object recalls an element of the dress that Vanisher spotted in Zoe's room at the beginning. Like the doilies with the logos of the Dupain-Cheng bakery, supposed to become the laces of the dress.

169 CHLOE (CONT'D)
Here's proof! These doilies have the initials TS on them! You think they stand for Thick Simpleton? NO! They stand for Tom and Sabine! Because they come from the Dupain-Cheng bakery, don't they?

Tom and Sabine have to admit that they do, with shy and painful nods. Marinette sees the worried looks her parents are giving her...

Zoe leans over to Marinette to whisper to her.

170 ZOE
How'd she do that?

Marinette shrugs – she doesn't know. But we can tell she's starting to worry as Chloe goes on:

171 CHLOE
SEE?! Her own parents are accusing her, rejecting her! And they're right, because... oh, look what else I just found!

Like an evil magician, she now takes out Anarka's pirate flag.

172 CHLOE (CONT'D)
This disgusting thing belongs to her "friend" Anarka!

173 ANARKA
My flag!

174 CHLOE
Just look at her sketch - which is nothing short of a confession - her evil intention was to cut your flag into pieces for her terrible dress! That’s right: she doesn’t just steal from her parents, but from her friends’ parents too!

Chloe pulls out pink paper flowers from the middle of the pile. The shocked florist recognizes them immediately.

175 FLORIST
My flowers... but... you took ALL OF THEM?!

176 CHLOE
And even that poor man – she stole his most beautiful paper flowers, which he'd made with his own little hands!!! Those poor, fragile little flowers!

To support her claims, Chloe tears the paper flowers and throws the petals to the wind... one of them flies into Vanisher – who's here unbeknownst to the others... which only Marinette then NOTICES. (Staging note: Marinette vision) No one's seen anything. (Including Chloe.)

177 CHLOE (CONT'D)
And look what shines like a bright sun among those miserable things! My beloved expensive gold phone... that she stole from me!

178 MARINETTE
Why would I steal a phone to make a dress? It doesn't make any sense!

A beat. Chloe thinks (as if possessed by her own intelligence) and then she snaps her fingers:

179 CHLOE
To melt it down! That monster was planning to melt my gold phone into hideous jewelry to go with her hideous dress! That's a first-degree phoneslaughter! It's a good thing we caught her red-handed! The jury must convict the baker girl straight away!
(*a beat*)
I rest my case.

180 MR. DAMOCLES
Miss Marinette, to think I trusted you... I'm so disappointed in you. And even though we are a few days away from the end of the school year, all this evidence leaves me no choice but to expel you from school!

Everyone looks at each other, worried.

181 TOM
(*stunned*)
Marinette? What's... What's happened to you?

182 ANARKA
If you needed something, all you had to do was ask.

Zoe looks at the speechless Marinette and steps forward.

183 ZOE
It was me! Marinette had nothing to do with it.

Marinette doesn't understand why she's doing this.

184 MARINETTE
What? No, Zoe...

An amazing twist. The members of the jury hold their breath.

Dismayed, Vanisher turns to Chloe, who's heading towards Zoe:

185 CHLOE
Are you out of your mind? Who do you think you are, ruining MY indictment?

186 ZOE
I stole everything so Marinette could have her dream dress... because you should never bury your dreams!

Zoe's eyes meet Andre's – he's crushed...

187 CHLOE
Well, you just earned your ticket back to New York!

Marinette takes advantage of the fact that all eyes are now turned to Zoe to go hide...

22 **EXT. EIFFEL TOWER / BEHIND A PILLAR - EVENING**

Tikki joins her.

188 TIKKI
Marinette, I saw what happened, it was a super villain,--

189 MARINETTE
...Vanisher, I know. Tikki, spots on!

Marinette transforms into Ladybug and takes out her Bugphone.

190 LADYBUG
Cat Noir, it's me... we've got a vanishing villain on the Eiffel Tower. Meet me there.

Immediately, she calls up her...

191 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
Lucky Charm!

...and gets a red piñata with black polka dots.

23 **EXT. EIFFEL TOWER / FIRST LEVEL - EVENING**

Ladybug shows up on the scene and announces:

192 LADYBUG
I know who did this!

193 CHLOE
That's all we need! Maybe your *piñata* did it, Ladylame?

194 LADYBUG
No, it was an akumatized villain... Vanisher!

In a flash, surprising everyone, Ladybug throws her yo-yo towards Vanisher. The villain dodges it... then retaliates, engaging in a fight. Vanisher uses her whistle to conjure up the objects that we saw her touch during the episode. These objects turn into weapons she uses to fight against Ladybug: the baker's peel from the bakery, Ivan’s drumsticks...

Everybody runs for cover. Adrien takes advantage of it...

24 **EXT. EIFFEL TOWER / BEHIND ELEVATOR - EVENING**

Hiding behind the elevator, Adrien gets Plagg out.

195 ADRIEN
Ladybug's going to need us to plead her case! Plagg, claws out!

We do not see Adrien transform into Cat Noir.

25 **EXT. EIFFEL TOWER / FIRST LEVEL - EVENING**

Back to the fight scene, where Ladybug and Vanisher are facing when Cat Noir arrives.

196 CAT NOIR
As soon as I got your message, I got here as quickly as I could, M'Lady!

197 LADYBUG
Perfect timing, kittycat; how would you like to help me reveal the truth?

With her teammate here, Ladybug finally understands how to use her Lucky Charm.

We understand her plan thanks to the objects that are highlighted: the florist's spray adhesive, the piñata and Cat Noir... who’s standing next to Marinette's sports bag where the spray adhesive is. Cat Noir spots it. He grabs it.

198 CAT NOIR
Always happy to help a friend out of a sticky situation!

Just then, Monarch takes the opportunity to address Vanisher:

199 MONARCH
Your only way to remain innocent and unmasked, Vanisher, is to seize Ladybug and Cat Noir’s Miraculous.

But Cat Noir is already throwing glue on Vanisher, just as Ladybug throws the piñata above the villain... The confetti from the piñata stick to the villain, who becomes "visible".

Ladybug spots the whistle as Vanisher uses it again, this time to summon back a coat rack (which she uses like a sword).

200 LADYBUG
The whistle!

With Cat Noir's help, and at the price of some acrobatics on the Eiffel Tower, Ladybug succeeds in breaking the whistle, and captures the Megakuma. Vanisher turns back into Sabrina.

201 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
No more evil-doing for you, Megakuma! Time to de-evilize!

Then she releases the harmless white butterfly.

202 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
Bye bye little butterfly. Miraculous Ladybug!

INSERTS - The items stolen by Vanisher return to their places.

BACK - on Chloe, furious against her underling.

203 CHLOE
Sabrina, you were ridiculous, utterly ridiculous!

Ladybug acts as if Chloe didn't exist and puts the Magical Charm in Sabrina's hand.

204 LADYBUG
This Magical Charm will help you to remember where good and evil lie, and to make the right choices.

Sabrina seems genuinely touched.
Ladybug points Zoe out to everyone present.

205 LADYBUG (CONT'D)
This young girl is innocent, she was framed by Vanisher...

206 CAT NOIR
With Chloe's help!

Everyone turns to Chloe. They're outraged.

207 LADYBUG
Bug out!

As Ladybug and Cat Noir leave, Tom and Sabine wonder...

208 TOM / SABINE
Where'd Marinette go?

Marinette transforms back behind a pillar and comes running back to reassure her parents, and Zoe.

Meanwhile Adrien takes up his position next to Nino, as if nothing had happened.

26 **EXT. OUTSIDE PALACE - EVENING**

Marinette's given Zoe a ride back to the Palace on her scooter.

209 MARINETTE
It was so kind of you, Zoe, but don't ever sacrifice yourself for me or anyone else. And the same thing goes for your feelings...

Zoe looks at her, not knowing how to take what Marinette just said.

210 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
I know you're in love with Adrien. Don't sacrifice your feelings for him because of me. He has a right to hear your declaration...

211 ZOE
Adrien?! But *you*'re the one he loves...

212 MARINETTE
Even if he loves me, he'd be flattered to know that you love him too. Let him know how you feel about him...
(*A beat*)
Zoe, you're an amazing person.
(MORE)

MARINETTE (CONT'D)
One can only feel honored to be loved by you.

213 ZOE
Are you sure?

214 MARINETTE
Of course! You can't keep it to yourself!

215 ZOE
But... Adrien’s not the one I’m in love with.

Marinette doesn't get it right away.

216 MARINETTE
Oh? Who is it then?

A beat. Zoe gives her a look – a look that means "it's you"! Marinette finally understands.

217 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
Oh!

Touched and moved, Marinette takes Zoe in her arms.

218 MARINETTE (CONT'D)
I am truly, very honored. I mean it, Zoe.

Zoe sighs, relieved.

219 ZOE
Thanks Marinette.
(deep breath)
You're right, it's such a relief to get these things off your chest...
(a beat)
You should try, too!

MARINETTE
What do you mean?

ZOE
Adrien! What are you waiting for to go and tell him that you love him?

MARINETTE
But... wait... what? How is he going to react? And what am I gonna say to him? What if I just do what I always do, mess things up and definitely ruin things between us?

ZOE
Marinette, I've been wanting to tell you how I feel since the day I met you. But since you're madly in love with Adrien, I thought that it would be pointless and ruin things between us. But look: I just told you, and I can see that it doesn't change anything. Which changes everything for me.
(a beat)
You were right: telling someone that you love them doesn't ruin anything. It's time you started taking your own advice too.

It's a revelation for Marinette. She's frozen to the spot.

221 ZOE (CONT'D)
What are you waiting for? Go!

Marinette kisses her on the cheek to thank her, then she runs like the wind down the streets, leaving her scooter behind...

27 **EXT. OUTSIDE AGRESTE MANSION - NIGHT**

Night has fallen. Marinette comes running...

222 MARINETTE
ADRIEEEEN!!!! ADRIEEEEN!!!

Out his study window, Gabriel Agreste sees Marinette enter the courtyard of his mansion and climb the steps to meet Adrien, who's waiting for her. Marinette takes Adrien's hands in hers, and tries to catch her breath, smiling happily.

223 ADRIEN
What's going on, Marinette?

224 MARINETTE
Adrien... I... my hair is a mess, I'm not wearing my princess dress, there's no music, no rose petals everywhere, and... we're not on the Eiffel Tower...! But even though this isn't at all how I had imagined this magical moment would play out, it feels right... Adrien...
(*A beat*)
I love you!

Adrien smiles.

225 ADRIEN
This couldn’t be any more magical, Marinette!

He walks towards her. They hug. Their faces get closer, they close their eyes.

It's THE MOMENT.

INSERT - A black screen. Gabriel comes out of the dark and towards the camera. He talks to it.

226 GABRIEL
Adrien, NO!

Then Gabriel retreats back into the darkness... where he disappears.

BACK - Adrien opens his eyes and stops. His face is close to Marinette's. They haven't kissed. Adrien steps back.

Marinette opens her eyes in turn, surprised.

227 MARINETTE
Is something wrong?

228 ADRIEN
I don't know... I feel strange. I'm sorry... Maybe you should go home.

Adrien looks completely disoriented.

Marinette doesn't understand. She's lost. Dazed, stunned.

229 MARINETTE
Okay?!

She leaves, confused and disappointed...

Through the window, Gabriel watches Marinette leave the courtyard the way she came.

Marinette looks back one last time at Adrien, who’s still rooted to the top of the stairs, lost at sea.

Marinette sees Gabriel at the window.

She stops. Squints. A beat. Gabriel nervously fiddles with his ring, then steps away from the window and disappears into the darkness.

Marinette leaves.

28 **INT. MARINETTE'S ROOM - NIGHT**

Marinette sits down on her bed, stunned.

230 MARINETTE
The important thing is... that I told him how I feel, right Tikki?

Tikki is trying to cheer her up, but we can feel the temperature's come down.

231 TIKKI
Of course Marinette!!! You were very brave, you finally told Adrien that you love him--- that's huge!!!

232 MARINETTE
Yes... yeah.

Marinette smiles, but her eyes say it all: she is still in shock.

Marinette remains alone in the darkness of her room, completely lost.

NO POSTER PAINT.

END OF EPISODE